

Chefs in the City 2016

Purpose

The Chefs in the City program is located in the Hilltop area on the West side of Columbus. This area of town would be considered a food desert by any measure. The average family income is just over \$22,000 and 1/3 of the families in this area live below the poverty line. This program works in conjunction with several community agencies to increase nutrition awareness at several locations and schools in the area. We work closely with the Highland Youth Garden to provide a rich learning environment and opportunity for the students K-7 and their families to have access to fresh produce.

Impact

Strengthens families and communities by providing a safe and nurturing learning laboratory for at risk children and their families. In 2015, we met with over 80 children and families twice monthly. 330 youth in the area surrounding the garden were taught Expanded Food and Nutrition Program lessons through OSU Extension Franklin County. We plan to provide educational opportunities to over 500 children weekly in 2016.

Preparing Youth for Success by offering a STEM based learning program, and offer several paid positions for community residents, especially teenagers.

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

OSU Extension

Family and Consumer Sciences,
Expanded Food, Nutrition and
Education Program

OSU Wexner Medical Center

Department of Nutrition Services

Community Partners Involved

Columbus City Schools

Franklin County Master Gardeners

Mid-Ohio Food Bank

Fresh Serv Produce Company

Highland Youth Garden

Columbus West Family Health and
Wellness Center

Dowd Education Center

Shalom Zone

Franklin Park Conservatory

Enhances agriculture and the environment themes through educational opportunities which promote farm to fork activities as well as teaching students to respect the natural flora and fauna which make up this active garden site.



How you can get involved:

- Support our partners
- Volunteer during education sessions on Thursday afternoons
- Cash or in-kind donations
- Volunteer in April and October to prep the soil, and to ready the farm for the next growing season

To get involved, contact:

James Warner
Program Director
Food and Nutrition
Nutrition Services
OSU Wexner Medical Center
jim.warner@osumc.edu
Highlandyouthgarden.org



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY

